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Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: report of the Conference on Disarmament

Letter dated 6 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

As Austria currently holds the presidency of the Conference on Disarmament, I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a joint statement on the Conference by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the six presidencies of 2009, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe, Algeria, Argentina, Australia and Austria, which was issued on 24 September 2009, on the occasion of the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1887 (2009) on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 98 (a).

(*Signed*) Thomas **Mayr-Harting**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 6 October 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Joint statement on the Conference on Disarmament by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the six presidencies of 2009

New York, 24 September 2009

1. Bearing in mind their successive presidencies of the 2009 session of the Conference on Disarmament, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam, Zimbabwe, Algeria, Argentina, Australia and Austria, participating in the General Assembly in New York, reaffirmed collectively, as well as in their national capacity, their commitment to the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum and welcomed the adoption of its 2009 programme of work on 29 May 2009.

2. The six Ministers welcomed the positive momentum provided by a number of initiatives by States and their leaders and urged the Conference on Disarmament to move forward with an early commencement of substantive work in 2010.

3. In the context of the Security Council's initiative on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament, highlighted by the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 1887 (2009) on 24 September 2009, the Ministers welcomed in particular the Security Council's call upon the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate towards an early commencement of substantive work.

4. They emphasized that the Conference on Disarmament is of paramount importance and stressed that it should live up to the world's expectations, based on its historic achievements, such as the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

5. The Ministers pledged that they would remain fully engaged, inter alia, through consultations with all interested Member States.